

NEBRASKA STATE FIRE MARSHAL OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION



Interpretation Number: 05-05

Date: 01 February 2007

Pamphlet Number: NFPA 1124,
NFPA 101, Life Safety Code

Section(s): 7.9.2, 7.1.5; 36/37.2.9

Comments:

None

Question: Are emergency lighting required in retail fireworks sales facilities?

Response: Yes, in facilities over 3,000 square feet in area.

Retail fireworks sales facilities are considered Mercantile occupancies and must meet the requirements of Chapters 36/37 of the Life Safety Code. Emergency lighting is required in Class A or B Mercantile occupancies (>3,000 square feet aggregate gross area). This includes any retail fireworks sales facility larger than 3,000 square feet of aggregate gross area (sales area). Permanent and temporary sales facilities such as buildings, tents and stands are included in this requirement.

Proper emergency lighting levels must be maintained when normal lighting service fails. Minimum lighting levels must be at least an average of 1 footcandle throughout the means of egress (aisles, corridors, stairs, doors) for at least 90 minutes.

Emergency lighting must be tested to assure its effectiveness. A monthly test for at least 30 seconds and an annual test for the full 90 minutes is required. Documentation of the tests must be kept for review by the authority having jurisdiction.

Signature:

Date: 02/01/07

Title: John E. Falgione, State of Nebraska Fire Marshal